Firestone Tire and Rubber Site
Albany, Georgia

I. Introduction

This Preliminary Close Out Report documents that the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has completed construction activities for the final operable unit at the Firestone Tire and Rubber site in accordance with *Procedures for Completion and Deletion of National Priorities List Sites* and Update (OSWER Directive 9320.2-3C). EPA conducted a final inspection on September 4, 1997, and determined that the remedy has been constructed in accordance with the remedial design plans and specifications and no further response is anticipated. EPA and the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (GDNR) have initiated the activities necessary to achieve performance standards and site completion.

II. Summary of Site Conditions

Background

The site is located at 3300 Sylvester Road, approximately one mile east of the city limit of Albany, Dougherty County, Georgia. The site was initially constructed in 1967 and was used for manufacturing tires as a Firestone Tire & Rubber Company (Firestone) facility from 1968 to 1986. From 1986, the site remained inactive until March 1990, when Cooper Tire purchased the facility and began renovations.

Prior to closing the facility in 1985, Firestone conducted a voluntary assessment of potential contamination at the site. From the assessment activities, two areas were identified for further study. The courtyard area of the site, located in the area between the manufacturing buildings, was the location of underground and aboveground storage tanks, power transformers, road and rail shipping and material handling operations. The burn pit area, located near the east drainage ditch and storm water retention pond, was the location of an anti-oxidant spill in 1980.

Following the initial assessment activities, Firestone conducted several voluntary interim remedial activities, including the following:

* Removal of underground storage tanks;
* Removal of most of the soil contaminated with Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs);
* Installation and operation of a groundwater extraction and treatment system;
* Performing additional groundwater monitoring

Approximately 441 cubic yards of rubbish and debris and 105 cubic yards of soil were transported to the Oxford Solid Waste Landfill located in Albany, Georgia. In addition PCB transformers were removed from the roofs and the inside of buildings; roof materials and concrete transformer pads were removed and placed in permitted facilities. Additional information on the voluntary actions may be found in the Scoping Document submitted to EPA on October 7, 1990.

The site was proposed by EPA for the CERCLA National Priorities List (NPL) in June of 1988, and was included on the NPL in October 1989. Firestone entered into an Administrative Order by Consent (AOC) with EPA in 1990 to conduct an Remedial Investigation /Feasibility Study (RI/FS).

EPA'S Selected Remedial Action Alternative/The Record of Decision

After reviewing the results of the RI/FS, EPA issued a Record of Decision for the site on June 24, 1993. The selected remedy included the following components.

* Discharge of extracted groundwater after air stripping treatment to Local Waste Water Treatment System (Publicly Owned Treatment Works - POTW);
* Periodic groundwater monitoring;
* Institutional controls on well construction and water use at the site;
* Excavation and disposal of PCB-contaminated soils

In March of 1994, Firestone Tire & Rubber entered into a Judicial Consent Decree with EPA and the Department of Justice to implement a Remedial Design/Remedial Action at the site. Due to the complexities of the site, the remedial action was addressed in two phases. In November of 1994, approximately 25 cubic yards of contaminated soil and debris with concentrations of PCB greater than 10 ppm were excavated and transported to Chemical Waste Managements's Emelle, Alabama landfill in accordance with all Federal and State regulations. The soil remediation is documented in the December 14, 1994, Soil Remediation Report.

In 1995, Bridgestone Firestone conducted design activities for the purpose of preparing a Remedial Design Report to address the contaminated groundwater at the site. The cleanup levels for the primary contaminants of concern in the shallow groundwater in the courtyard area are as follows: Benzene 5 ug/l; 1,1,1-Trichloroethane (TCA) 200 ug/l; and 1,1-Dichloroethylene 7 ug/l. The 100% Remedial Design Report was approved by EPA on June 28, 1996. The Remedial Action Plan prepared to implement the installation of the groundwater collection system described in the 100% Remedial Design Report was formally approved by EPA on September 18, 1996. EPA and GDNR provided oversight of the remedial activities as planned, and no additional areas of contamination were identified . EPA conducted three pre-final inspections between November 23, 1996 and July15, 1997, and developed a list of outstanding construction items. The RA activities were performed according to design specifications set forth in the 100% Remedial Design Report, including:

- Demolition and removal of unneeded portions of the interim groundwater collection system.
- Inspection and modification of the remaining equipment;
- Alteration of the four recovery well heads to elevations below grade, and installation of recovery well vault boxes and locking covers with gaskets;
- Installation of recovery well pumps and pump controllers for wells MW-1-2 and MW-1-1;

- Reconfiguration of the well heads to allow for sampling ports and the presence of piping for influent compressed air, bubbler controller, and effluent water;
- Trenching, installation, and backfilling of subsurface recovery well piping to connect the four recovery wells to the control room;
- Modification of the piping and controls in the control room to accept the contingent granular activated carbon units;
- Installation of an effluent sampling port in the control room for the combined groundwater flow; and,
- Trenching, installation and backfilling of subsurface effluent discharge piping to connect the control room with the discharge to the POTW.

At the present time groundwater recovered by the system does not contain concentrations of contaminants of concern above the POTWs discharge limits (Benzene 20 ug/l; 1,1,1-Trichloroethane (TCA) 20 ug/l; and 1,1-Dichloroethylene 20 ug/l). Based on the historically decreasing concentrations, it is unlikely that the limits will be exceeded. As a result of an agreement made between the Albany Public Works Division and Bridgestone/Firestone, recovered groundwater is discharged directly to the POTW without any on-site treatment. In the event that any of the concentrations increase to the point where they do exceed the discharge limits, granular activated carbon units vessels will be added to the system in accordance with the RA plan to remove the contaminants prior to POTW discharge. Carbon filters can easily be integrated as a contingency into the current design with very little impact on the system. Carbon filters would also provide adequate cleanup of the groundwater in a more cost-effective manner than the air strippers. This agreement was documented by EPA in the March 1996, Explanation of Significant Difference Fact Sheet.

Remaining activities to be completed by the Bridgestone Firestone include periodic adjustments and /or modifications to the collection system to maintain optimum performance as well as demobilization of the system once the cleanup goals identified in the ROD, SOW and the Remedial Design, have been achieved. Groundwater will continue to be monitored until concentrations of the contaminants of concern are below cleanup goals (MCLs) for three consecutive years. It is anticipated that the groundwater extraction will be completed within thirty years.

III. Demonstration of Cleanup Activity Quality Assurance and Quality Control

Activities at the site were consistent with the ROD and the RD/RA Statement of Work issued for design and construction. The RD Report, including a Quality Assurance Project Plan (QUAPP), incorporated all EPA and State quality assurance and quality validation and monitoring samples during the RA activities. All procedures and protocol followed for groundwater sample analysis during RA are documented in the RD Report and were conducted in accordance with the Statement of Work.

The QA/QC program used throughout the RA was rigorous and in conformance with EPA and GDNR standards; therefore, EPA and the GDNR determined that all analytical results are

accurate to the degree needed to assure satisfactory execution of the RA and consistent with the ROD and RD plans and specifications.

IV Activities and Schedules for Site Completion

The RA activities that remain to be completed for the Firestone Tire and Rubber Site include approving the Revised Operations and Maintenance Plan, conducting a five-year review, preparing the Five-Year Review Report and preparing the Final Close Out Report. These activities are currently planned to be completed according to the following schedule.

Task	Estimated Completion	Responsible Organization Organization
Approve Revised O&M Plan	10/30/98	EPA/State
Five-Year Review	09/30/99	EPA
Approve Final Closeout Report	09/30/28	EPA
Deletion From NPL	09/30/28	EPA

V. Five-Year Review

Hazardous substances will remain at the site above health-based levels after the completion of the remedial action. Pursuant to CERCLA section 121(c) and as provided in OSWER Directive 9355.7-02, *Structure Components of Five-Year Reviews*, may 23, 1991, and OSWER Directive 9355.702A, *Supplemental Five Year Review Guidance*, July 26, 1994, EPA must conduct a statutory five-year review. The Five-Year review report will be completed prior to October 30, 1999 (five-years after the first onsite mobilization).

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Date